

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 10404 221440Z POSS DUPE
ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4902
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 10404

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION NEW DELHI 21 JULY 1977
AND IS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

QUOTE:

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JOINT CONGEN-USIS MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: REPORTING ON NUCLEAR POLICY COMMENTS

REF: LOU NEW DELHI 9786

MALAYALAM DAILY VEEKSHANAM (COCHIN - CIR. 40,000), OFFICIAL
ORGAN OF THE KERALA PRADESH CONGRESS COMMITTEE, IN ITS ISSUE
DATED JULY 18, 1977 HAS PUBLISHED ON ITS 2ND PAGE A CONTRIBUTED
ARTICLE WITH A FIVE COLUMN HEAD READING "JANATA GOVERNMENT'S
LOVE FOR AMERICA", WHICH COMMENTS ON INDO-U.S. RELATIONS AND
NUCLEAR ISSUES. A TRANSLATION OF THE RELEVANT PORTIONS IS
GIVEN BELOW:

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 10404 221440Z POSS DUPE

QUOTE: "JANATA GOVERNMENT'S LOVE FOR AMERICA"
R.K.R.

THE TRUE COLOURS OF THE JANATA GOVERNMENT ARE REVEALED IN THE
ANSWER GIVEN BY (PRIME MINISTER) MORARJI DESAI TO A QUESTION

(IN PARLIAMENT) AS TO WHETHER AMERICA IS LINKING A URANIUM SUPPLY CONTRACT TO AN UNDERTAKING UNDER WHICH A SECOND NUCLEAR EXPLOSION BY INDIA WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE. DESAI SAID THAT THERE IS NO NEED FOR NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, BUT THAT HE DOESN'T WANT TO COMMIT ANYTHING FOR ALL TIME. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE NUCLEAR EXPLOSION, MEANT FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, WAS MISUNDERSTOOD; AND THAT IT HAS CREATED ALL THE TROUBLE. HE HAD TOLD THOSE WHO MISUNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WILL NOT BE ANY MORE EXPLOSIONS.

MANY RELEVANT QUESTIONS ARISE AT THIS POINT. EVERYBODY KNOWS WHO IT WAS WHO MISUNDERSTOOD. THE PICTURE OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRY TAKING A SEAT AMONG THE NUCLEAR NATIONS HAS ANGERED AMERICA VERY MUCH. AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD, THE IMAGE OF INDIA HAS BECOME SURPRISINGLY POWERFUL. IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT A PROGRESSIVE INDIA WHICH DOES NOT DANCE TO THE TUNE OF AMERICA HAS CAUSED BEWILDERMENT AND MISUNDERSTANDING.

FROM THE REMARKS OF THE PRIME MINISTER, IT CAN BE SEEN THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S MOVE IS TO SAFEGUARD AMERICA'S INTERESTS RATHER THAN MAINTAIN THE STRENGTH AND CAPABILITY OF INDIA. OPPOSITION LEADER (Y.B. CHAVAN IS STERN BUT MODERATE LANGUAGE (ALSO) WAS ASKING THE PRIME MINISTER WHETHER HE HAD GIVEN UP NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR ALL TIME TO GAIN CERTAIN THINGS FROM AMERICA. THE JANATA GOVERNMENT HAS THROWN TO THE WINDS THE SELF-RESPECT AND REPUTATION OF THEIR OWN COUNTRY. THE LOVE THEY HAVE FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 NEW DE 10404 221440Z POSS DUPE

AMERICA IS A REALITY AND IT HAS NOW BECOME EVIDENT. IF SOMEONE SAYS THAT A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES IS MISUNDERSTOOD, IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY MEAN. IMPERIALISM NEVER LIKES IT WHEN A COUNTRY WHICH IS A NATURAL PREY FOR EXPLOITATION BECOMES GREAT.

IN THIS MATTER, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES HAVE NOT MISUNDERSTOOD INDIA. TO ADVANCE IN THE PATH OF (NUCLEAR) SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS, THEY HAVE EXTENDED THEIR WHOLEHEARTED COOPERATION AND SUPPORT. AND THE PROGRESS INDIA HAS ACHIEVED IN THIS FIELD IS ENVIABLE.

IF THE JANATA GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT INDIA IS AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY, THEY WOULD NOT HAVE GIVEN UNDUE PROMINENCE TO THIS MISUNDERSTANDING. A COUNTRY DOES NOT DRAW UP ITS POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES AND PURSUE ITS DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES EITHER TO PLEASE OTHERS OR TO REMOVE THEIR MISUNDERSTANDINGS. IN PARTICULAR, AN UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRY LIKE INDIA CAN MAKE EXTRAORDINARY PROGRESS BY USING NUCLEAR POWER. WHETHER INDIA SHOULD CONDUCT NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS OR NOT IS A MATTER

TO BE DECIDED BY THE SCIENTISTS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN RESEARCH
IN THIS FIELD. IT IS ONLY THESE SCIENTISTS WHO CONDUCTED THE
TEST FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION WAS CONDUCTED
BECAUSE IT WAS FOUND NECESSARY AND NOT FOR FUN OR AS A STUNT
BY THE CONGRESS GOVERNMENT. THE PRIME MINISTER DESAI SHOULD
HAVE FIRST DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT WITH THESE SCIENTISTS
AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS. IF THEY SAY IT (A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION)
IS UNNECESSARY, THEN THERE IS NO PROBLEM. HAS AN ASSESSMENT
BEEN MADE ABOUT THE INFORMATION AND GAINS OBTAINED FROM
THE PREVIOUS EXPLOSION?

TO A GOVERNMENT BENT UPON PLEASING AMERICAN CAPITALISM
MORE THAN SERVING THE BROADER INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY,
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PAGE 04 NEW DE 10404 221440Z POSS DUPE

THESE NICETIES WON'T POSE A PROBLEM. THE SURPRISING THINGS
IS THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE UTTERING THE NAME OF FANDHIJI AND
SWEARING BY NATIONALISM. REVOLUTIONARIES WHO (AT ONE TIME)
WENT TO THE EXTENT OF SAYING THAT INDIA SHOULD MAKE THE
ATOM BOMB ARE NOW THE PROUD CONSTITUENTS OF THE JANATA
GOVERNMENT. WILL ANYBODY FIND OUT WHO SILENCED THEIR
TONGUES? THOSE REVOLUTIONARIES, WHO ADVOCATED RAISING THE
COUNTRY TO THE RANKS OF THE NUCLEAR NATIONS, HAVE NOW COME
DOWN TO THE LEVEL OF SAYING THAT THE VERY WORD NUCLEAR POWER
IS NOT NECESSARY FOR INDIA.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S HISTORIC DECLARATION REGARDING THIS
MATTER REVEALS THE REAL REASON FOR THE PROPAGANDA CARRIED
ON THROUGH THE AMERICAN NEWS MEDIA THAT DEMOCRACY HAD DISAPPEARED
IN INDIA; AND FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND ASYLUM GIVEN TO
CERTAIN SWAMIS FOR PULLING DOWN THE THEN GOVERNMENT.
THIS (DESAI'S STATEMENT) IS ALSO A POLICY DECLARATION WHICH
SHEDS LIGHT ON THE PATRIOTISM OF THESE 'TOTAL REVOLUTIONARIES'
WHO MEEKLY OBEY THE ORDERS COMING FROM THE CITADELS OF INDIA'S
MONOPOLISTS AND CAPITALISTS. THAT CITADEL IS RULING INDIA
TODAY. EVEN THOUGH THE EASYCHAIR REVOLUTIONARIES COVER UP THIS
FACT, THIS IS THE TRUTH THAT IS BEING UNFOLDED. IT IS NOT
FOR NOTHING THAT THE TOTAL REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST LEADER
(J. P. NARAYAN) WHOSE INCARNATION IS MEANT TO PROVIDE
LEADERSHIP TO THE 500 MILLION PEOPLE IS ACCOMMODATED WITH ALL
KINGLY SPLENDOR. THE PATH THAT IS OPENING UP IS TOWARD AN
AMERICAN FINALE. UNQUOTE.
MCCASKILL UNQUOTE
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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